

Be Surprised! (Pt 1)

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Living as a Minority 12
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Acts 11.1-30; Lk 24.44-48

Introduction

CCT: Jesus Christ reconciles all and makes us
_____ in Him.

I. Woah! What Are You Doing Here?

Who are the "Judaizers/circumcision party"?

Peter is criticized:

- a. Either, as a Jewish Christian, Peter should have kept the Law and observed the regulations of purity of food, and the Gentiles should have joined him in that observance; or
- b. the Jews and Gentiles should have sat at separate tables.

1. The Problem with "a"

Galatians 6:11-16 (ESV)

¹¹ See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. ¹² It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who would force you to be circumcised, and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the

cross of Christ. ¹³ For even those who are circumcised do not themselves keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. ¹⁴ But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵ For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. ¹⁶ And as for all who walk by this rule, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God.

2. The Problem with “b”

Ephesians 2:11–22 (ESV)

¹¹ Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— ¹² remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the

dividing wall of hostility ¹⁵ by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. ¹⁷ And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹ in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. ²² In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

II. Be Surprised

A call to repentance...

1. Do you say everyone has to look the same, eat the same, dress the same?
2. Do you, supposedly "in Christ," effectively eat at separate tables?

Understand what the stakes are. . .

Conclusion

Fellowship at The Lord's Table

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